

UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE
FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON

fn 7

March 23, 1979

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MEMORANDUM TO MR. CHRISTOPHER

Subject: Railway Loan for Argentina

Both Pete Vaky and John Bushnell have spoken to me about the decision on the attached loan. They feel very strongly that some progress has been made in Argentina and that the HA position set forth in the memorandum is based to a considerable extent on information relating to last year.

This difficult issue illustrates the very basic problem of how we recognize progress in human rights matters without appearing to settle for too little or to relinquish our pressure prematurely.

While S/P cleared off on this, Tony Lake did not focus personally on the issue. I have suggested that he do so and convey his views directly to you.

I believe that I come out suggesting that we vote no but that we accompany it by a demarche to the Argentines recognizing the progress that they have made and expressing the hope that this progress can continue so that we will not feel compelled to vote no on future loans.

David D. Newsom

Department of State, A/GIS/IPS/SRP
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